

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 285

To recognize and celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 29, 1995

Mr. HILLIARD submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight

RESOLUTION

To recognize and celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Whereas, in the 1950's, racial segregation was a pervasive and integral part of life in the South, and the city buses in Montgomery, Alabama, were a microcosm of the segregated society of the South;

Whereas, during this time, African-American bus passengers in Montgomery, Alabama, were required to sit in the rear of the bus, to give up seats to white passengers and, after paying their fare at the front of the bus, to exit and re-enter the bus through the back door;

Whereas, during this time, more than 75 percent of all of the bus passengers in Montgomery were African-American;

Whereas, during this time, African-Americans in Montgomery knew that protesting their unequal treatment could cause them to become victims of economic boycotts, violence, or other forms of intentional misconduct;

Whereas, on December 1, 1995, Mrs. Rosa Parks refused to move from her seat to the rear of the bus, knowing that this refusal placed her job and her life in jeopardy;

Whereas from Mrs. Parks' refusal to move to the back of the bus was born the Montgomery Bus Boycott;

Whereas Mrs. Parks' dignified refusal to act within the confines of an unjust system ignited a spark that spread throughout Montgomery, the South, the United States, and the world;

Whereas the Montgomery Bus Boycott represents the first full-scale, extended effort by African-Americans to successfully challenge discrimination and segregation; and

Whereas, on November 13, 1956, almost 1 year after Rosa Parks refused to move to the back of the bus, the United States Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation on buses: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) recognizes and celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott; and

3 (2) recognizes the Montgomery Bus Boycott as
4 an extraordinary historical event born out of the
5 courage of ordinary men and women in Montgomery,
6 Alabama, and as the catalyst of the American civil
7 rights movement, the purpose of which was to en-
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- 1 sure that all Americans, regardless of race, receive
- 2 equal treatment under the law.

